

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Randall L. Findley, *et al.*
Serial No.: 09/977,045
Filed: October 12, 2001
Title: PROGRAMMABLE FEEDBACK DELAY PHASE-LOCKED
LOOP FOR HIGH-SPEED INPUT/OUTPUT TIMING BUDGET
MANAGEMENT AND METHOD OF OPERATION THEREOF
Grp./A.U.: 2611
Examiner: Kevin Kim Confirmation No.: 3709

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically
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/Debbie Sams/
(Signature of the person signing the certificate)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH RCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114(c)

Before continuing examination of the above-identified application, please refer to the below arguments and amend the claims as indicated.